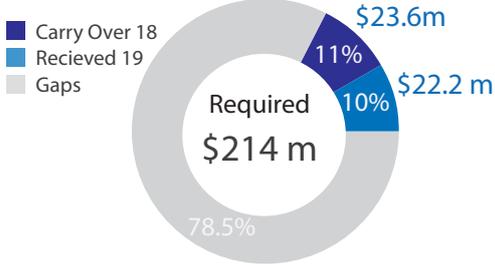




WATER SECTOR LEBANON mid-year 2019 Dashboard

The mid-year dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Water sector in Lebanon is working towards its expected outcome: by 2020, more vulnerable people in Lebanon are accessing sufficient, safe water for drinking and domestic use with reduced health and environmental impacts from unsafe wastewater management.

2019 Funding Status as of 31 June 2019

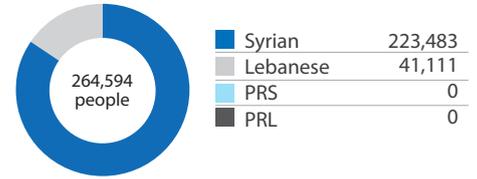


Targeted Population groups

2.69m (People in Need)

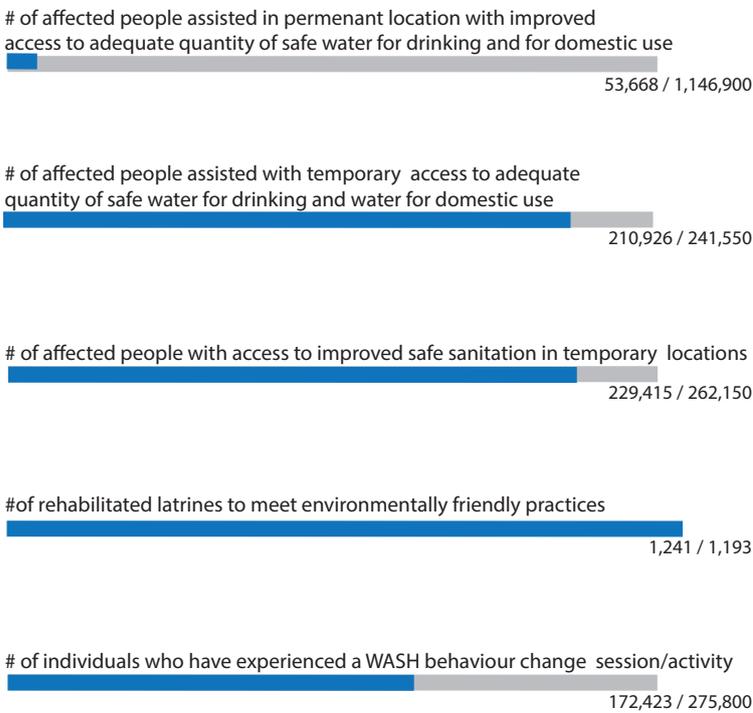


Population reached by cohort

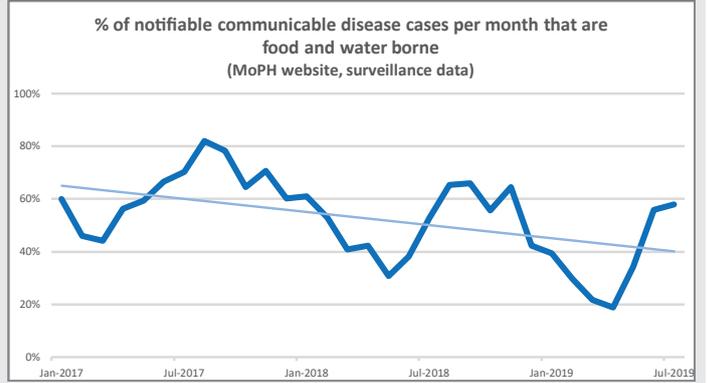


Progress against targets

Outputs

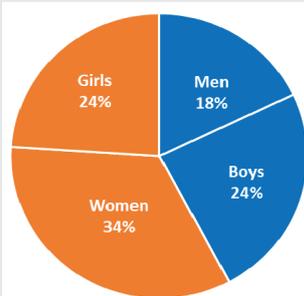


Percent of all notifiable communicable disease cases that are food and water borne, from January 2017 – June 2019. Seasonal variations show the highest proportions occur during the period from August to October each year.

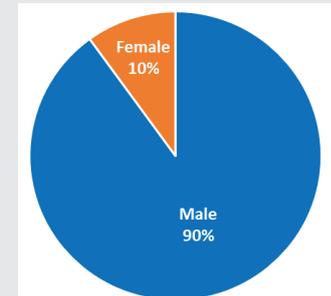


Age/Gender breakdown

men/women/boys/girls who have experienced a WASH behaviour change session/activity

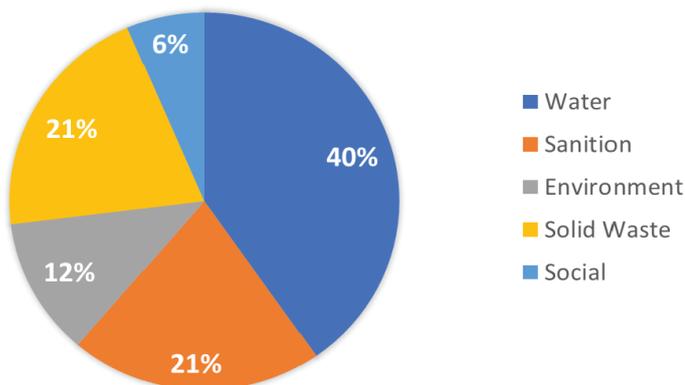


of affected women / men benefiting from WaSH livelihood opportunities



Analysis

Contribution from sections to overall wash vulnerability score of assessed sites*



* Source: WAP Baseline 2017



Key contributions towards LCRP impacts

The National Water Sector strategy is being updated, and the Ministry of Energy and Water is collecting data and analyzing on water and wastewater services to provide a comprehensive and consultative document before the end of 2019. In terms of material support to the Ministry of Energy and Water, the South Lebanon Water Establishment has been equipped with a new call center platform with a state-of-the-art software to manage customer requests, issues, and complaints. Since the beginning of 2019, the Water Sector has ensured the continuity of water and wastewater services for more than 220,000 Syrian displaced population (54/46 per cent being female/male) living in Informal Settlements, which represents two third of the population in Informal Settlements. Due to limited funding, the water sector was not able to invest enough in improved wastewater facilities though, even if it has been considered as a priority and the target of 1,193 toilettes is already achieved with 1,241 toilettes having been upgraded to reach environmental friendly standards.

In addition, since the end of 2018, the Litani River Authority (LRA), in charge of managing the main rivers in Lebanon, accused more than 27,000 Syrian displaced living in informal settlements near the bank of major water courses in Lebanon of causing environmental damage due to throwing waste into the river and therefore requesting their relocation. Based on an assessment conducted in May, 184 latrines (out of a total of 3,664) within 200 meters of the Litani river were identified with untreated sewage, with the Water Sector rectifying the situation for 142 of them. Interventions are not authorized on 42 latrines by landlords and/or local authorities. Sector partners are also continuing their engagement in social or community related initiatives, including: KAP surveys on public service usage, expenditure and willingness to pay; supporting Water Establishment updating and geo-reference of their customers; undertaking subscription campaigns to promote renewal or new subscriptions; and conducting awareness campaigns on water conservation, water meters, right to service and duty to pay.



Challenges

With the serious lack of funding and visibility over the last year in the WASH sector, not enough progress has been made to improve on-site sanitary conditions of Syrian displaced households: Only 41% of them use improved sanitation facilities, albeit it is essential to improving their health, dignity and reduce the impact of their presence on the environment. 18% of the toilettes are equipped with septic tanks to improve on-site wastewater treatment in Informal Settlements, mainly because the implementation requires significant capital investment, financial visibility, and time to plan, design and construct. Partners instead have had to direct the limited available funds to essential desludging services to mitigate environmental health risks. These advances in improving sanitation facilities and treating wastewater on-site are nonetheless critical in mitigating public health hazards, reducing tensions with hosting communities and avoid long term pollution of the groundwater.

Finally, the capacity to scale-up stabilization efforts has still been limited by the prioritization of critical humanitarian activities. With long-standing and severe shortcomings in public service provision, much of Lebanon's population have adopted coping mechanisms which are unsustainable. Promoting the principles of user-pays is therefore challenging.



Key priorities and gaps foreseen of 2019

At the institutional and policy level, the priority is to focus all efforts on the update of the National Water Sector Strategy, identifying priority gaps and areas of greatest vulnerability. A key element is to build the capacity of water establishments to recover costs with a focus on reducing Non-Revenue Water through appropriate tariff systems, communication to customers and through delivering a higher standard of service that ensures better quality, quantity and improved operation and maintenance. Previous experiences have proven that the most disadvantaged population are willing to pay the fees if water and wastewater public services are improved, as using the private sector is much

more expensive. At a service delivery level, the priority is on improving wastewater treatment temporary facilities in Informal Settlements through the implementation of septic tanks, which requires limited desludging only once or twice a year. The second priority is to support the rehabilitation and upgrading of priority wastewater treatment plants to ensure urgent disposal and adequate treatment of sludge from Syrian and Lebanese populations.

934 individuals were under threats of eviction without a home, 158 tents to be destroyed, what could be left is rubble, scrap and memories. All that would have happened until DPNA in partnership with UNICEF put an end for this banishment.

These challenges were presented due to high pollution in the area initiated from solid wastes, contaminated wells, flooded septic tanks, swamped grey water and a great number of nonfunctioning infrastructure. We had to act rapidly, cautiously and wisely since the site was targeted by the Lebanese authorities who were firm about removing the site.

We instigated the project by dislodging all 6 septic tanks, each septic tank is distributed among a specific area that it serves. The sludge was delivered to a water treatment plant subjected to the environmental standards. We implemented a cleaning campaign for the solid wastes management. With the help of solidwaste collection firm, waste were collected from the site and moved to a treatment plant, this was a success because most beneficiaries assisted in gathering and piling up the wastes in one location making it easy for the final step of waste collection. On another hand, rehabilitation vary among multiple tasks, began with excavating 6 filtration trenches for the disposal of treated black water, also filling the trenches with the bottom layer of stones and gravel, middle layer sand, reaching the surface layer with planting canes to absorb the filtered water. Furthermore, we installed/rehabilitated domestic pipes so stop water flooding and manholes overflow. Plus, installation of close valves for the branch pipes in each tent to ensure water conservation. Moreover, we planted trees on the filtration trenches for a healthier environment and natural scenery. A refugee said, "this work changes our lives and we have a positive impact on our behaviour".

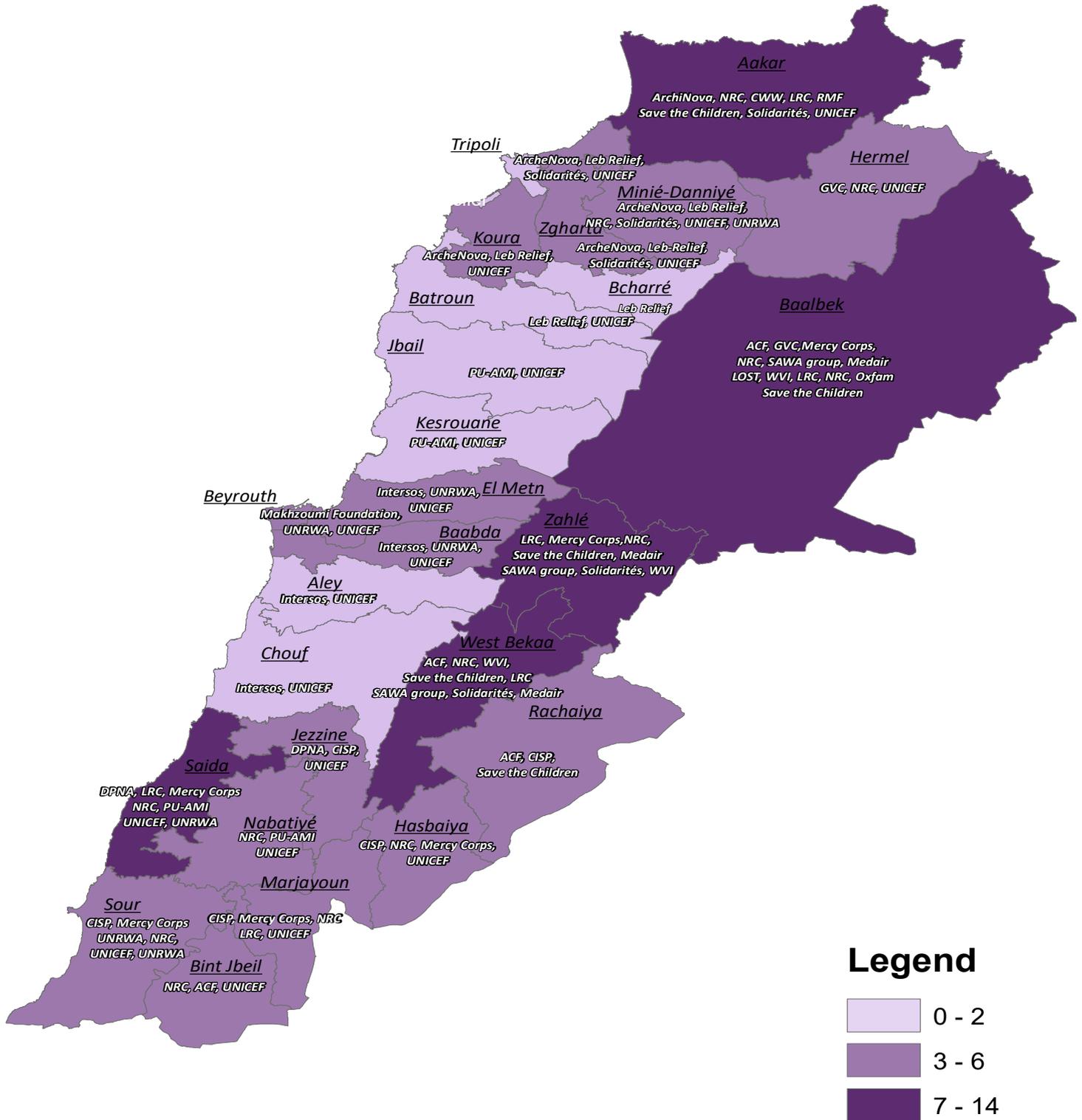




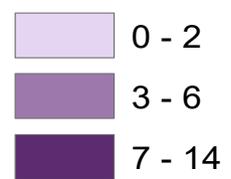
Organizations per district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following organizations:

ACF, ACTED, CISP, CONCERN, Arche-Nova, DPNA, GVC, Intersos, IOCC, Leb Relief, LOST, MEDAIR, Mercy Corps, NRC, OXFAM, PU-AMI, Red Cross, RMF, RI, SCI, Solidarités, UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNRWA, WVI, etc...



Legend



Note: This map has been produced by WATER Sector information Management based on maps and material provided by the Government of Lebanon for UN operational purposes. It does not constitute an official United Nations map. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.